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## FREE WEBSITE LINKS RENTERS AND LANDLORDS IN ALABAMA

ALHousingSearch.org lets users list and search for rental housing in Alabama for FREE

Montgomery, AL (February 04, 2013) – On Wednesday, the State of Alabama announced the launch of ALHousingSearch.org, a free housing locator website that gives renters, landlords, housing professionals, and social service providers access to real-time rental housing information. Speakers at the event included Jim Byard, Jr., Director of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA); Representative Patricia Todd; and an esteemed group of partners from across the housing continuum. Attendees were comprised of state and local officials, representatives from housing agencies and nonprofits, property managers, real estate professionals, and more. The project was developed by Disability Rights and Resources of Alabama and Socialserve.com, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to serving the affordable housing needs of communities. The project was funded by the Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities.

ALHousingSearch.org offers landlords, including those with critically-needed affordable and special-needs housing, a place to advertise properties at no cost, while helping renters find units that fit their specific needs. Listings can include pictures, maps, and information about nearby amenities such as parks, schools, and hospitals. Special features for renters include quick links to housing resources as well as rent-affordability and moving-cost calculators.

"ALHousingSearch.org will be especially helpful to prospective renters whose work and family demands leave them limited time to invest in a search for housing," said ADECA Director Jim Byard, Jr. "This fast and easy way to locate housing information and related resources not only benefits renters, it also will be a valuable asset for property owners and a vital tool for strengthening the economic health of our communities."

ALHousingSearch.org is also an invaluable tool during times of disaster, putting current housing information at the fingertips of disaster victims. "ALHousingSearch.org sets a stellar example for disaster preparedness with a proactive approach to identifying and listing emergency rental housing," said Rep. Patricia Todd. "When a crisis causes housing loss in Alabama, this resource will be in place and ready to help quickly house displaced individuals."

ALHousingSearch.org is powered by Socialserve.com, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to serving the affordable housing needs of communities – and a leading provider of housing locator services. Alabama joins the ever-growing national Socialserve.com network that now spans 34 states.

To search or list housing on ALHousingSearch.org, go online at **www.ALHousingSearch.org** any time, or call a toll-free, bilingual call center at 1-877-428-8844, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central Time.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Alabama has long needed a centralized database of available affordable housing," Todd added.

<sup>&</sup>quot;ALHousingSearch.org will give us the tools we need to find available housing throughout the state."